



WILLIAMS PAYS PENALTY OF DEATH

HANGED AT THE DALLES

For Murder of Alma Nesbitt and Her Aged Mother.

Norman Williams Dies On Gallows in County Jail at The Dalles. Sheriff Linville Adjusts Cap Before Murderer Plunges to Doom.

The Dalles, July 21.—Norman Williams, the murderer of Alma Nesbitt, and her mother, was hanged at the county jail this morning. He died bravely, but without a word either of confession or repentance on his lips. He left a signed statement with his confessor, but this is not to be made public.

Without a faltering step Williams went to the gallows, sustained by his father confessor, whose faith he espoused under the shadow of the gallows; he met the end without a tremor, so far as the eyes of the crowd could reach. Only those who administered the law's vengeance noted a slight quiver of the finger tips. To all others he was cold and confident.

The sun glared in his eyes and he looked downward. His face was ashen, but not more so than an hour before.

"Have you anything to say?" asked Sheriff F. C. Sexton.

"No," responded the murderer, with contracted lips.

It was the last word he uttered and it was negative, as usual. Sheriff Tom Linville, of Clatsop county, pulled the black cap over his face. Father Desmarais stood behind him with a book of faith and a lighted candle in his hand. Deputy Sheriff Haight had already adjusted the straps.

Bound and rigid, the assassin of innocent women, poisoner of trusting wives, stood on the fatal trap. Sheriff Sexton pulled the lever and Daniel Norman Williams shot earthward to the end of the six-foot drop and bounded into the air with a ghastly sound. It was the end.

At 6:23 o'clock Doctors Ferguson, Doane and Reuter pronounced life extinct, and the Hoeh of Oregon was laid in the plain black-stained box and hauled away. He was taken to St. Peter's church, where Father Desmarais held the brief services of the Roman Catholic Church, after which the mortal remains of the wife-slayer were interred in the Catholic cemetery.

The crime for which Daniel Norman Williams was executed yesterday is the murder of Mrs. L. J. Nesbitt, of Omaha, Neb., and her daughter Alma, near Hood River, Or., about March 8, 1900.

The motive of the crime was the desire of Williams to secure a homestead adjoining his own in the Hood River country upon which Alma Nesbitt located at his instigation. Williams later married Alma Nesbitt in order to inherit her property as next of kin, in case of her death.

Having laid his plan, on March 8, 1900, Williams enticed Alma and her mother Mrs. L. J. Nesbitt, who were living in Portland, to go to the homestead where he killed the two women in a manner never satisfactorily explained.

After committing the crime, Williams loitered around Hood River for about a year. Though no one ever stepped forward to institute an investigation of the whereabouts of the two women, nevertheless, a suspicion smoldered in the community that Williams

statement that the women had returned East was a fabrication.

Williams, unable to escape the spectre of suspicion finally relinquished his homestead and forged Alma Nesbitt's name to a relinquishment of her claims. He then went to British Columbia, and thence to Bellingham, Wash., where he married another woman, who died under suspicious circumstances a little less than two years ago.

George Nesbitt, the son and brother of the murdered women, was attracted to Oregon by reading a newspaper account of the indictment on October 29, 1903, of Norman Williams by the Federal grand jury at Portland, for having "forged the name of Alma Nesbitt to a homestead relinquishment."

George Nesbitt conducted a searching investigation which revealed a startling array of evidence of an incriminating nature against Williams and which resulted in Williams being indicted in January, 1905, by the Waco county, Oregon, grand jury.

The investigation instituted by Geo. Nesbitt resulted in the discovery that the ground under an old chicken house on the Williams claim had been broken. Digging, the searchers found well defined walls of a grave two feet wide, by six feet long.

At the depth of seven feet several gunnysacks were discovered clogged and stiff with blood, and two large bunches of human hair, also bloodstained, one bunch gray and the other bunch black, answering the description of the missing women's hair. At the trial evidence was introduced which showed that the hair had been forcibly separated from the scalp before the victim's death. A broken dish with hair clinging to the edges was also found in the grave. Nothing further was ever found.

Williams was apprehended at Bellingham, Wash., February 8, 1905, and brought back to The Dalles, Oregon, for trial.

The evidence against him was purely that years had elapsed, the state weaved a coil of evidence about Williams so strong that the efforts of one of the finest criminal lawyers in the Northwest failed to shake the impression of guilt in the minds of the jury, and on May 27, last, Williams was convicted of murder in the first degree. The usual appeal to the supreme court of the state followed, and Williams was sentenced to hang today.

Williams' career in Oregon was not his first experience in law breaking.

He is an exconvict of the Nebraska penitentiary where he served a term of four years for criminal assault upon the wife of one of his neighbors in that state; and another term for criminal assault and attempted murder of his sister-in-law at Chadron, Neb. This latter crime was fully as atrocious in conception as was the murder of the Nesbitt woman. He traduced the girl and then threw her into a well. Supposing her drowned, he set up an alarm. The girl's dress had, however, caught on a snag and she was rescued.

In addition to his other crimes Williams was also a bigamist, having one wife living in Nebraska; another, now divorced, living in Oregon, not to mention Alma Nesbitt whom he killed, and the Bellingham wife, who died under suspicious circumstances.

A peculiar feature of William's career is that, notwithstanding his character, in whichever district he dwelt, until found out in some crime, he maintained a reputation of eminent respectability.

FUNSTON SUSTAINS INJURIES

Monterey, July 21.—General Frederick Funston, commander of the department of California and his aides Lieut. Long and Lieutenant Burton J. Mitchell, department inspector of small arms practice, received painful but not serious injuries this afternoon when an electric car smashed into the carriage in which they were riding.

Costly Fire at Endicott.

Spokane, July 21.—A fire at Endicott, Wash., today did damage that is estimated at about \$65,000, with only \$28,000 insurance.

BOILER EXPLOSION KILLS 39 SAILORS

U. S. WARSHIP A CHARNEL HOUSE

Starboard Forward Boiler of Gunboat Bennington Blows Up at San Diego, Cal. Human Bodies Hurlled In Air. "Bluejackets" Killed Or Maimed.

San Diego, July 21.—Broken and blackened, with her flag flying at half-mast, her hold filled with fifteen feet of water, the United States ship Bennington lies beached on the shores of San Diego harbor. Thirty nine of her crew lie dead at the city morgues, the fate of a dozen more is as yet undetermined, three score are stretched upon beds of pain at various hospitals. This is the result of the explosion which wrecked the trim little naval craft and wrought such terrible havoc among her crew this morning.

The placid waters of San Diego bay never before have been the scene of such a disaster and San Diego city never before has been so stirred by such scenes of death and suffering as those witnessed tonight.

Twenty-one dead bodies lie ranged with gruesome precision at a private morgue. The stark forms were outlined in immaculate winding sheets the terrible results of the scalding steam upon their faces plainly showing though fully hidden beneath the folds.

Thirteen victims were stretched upon improvised biers at another morgue, while five others were to be seen at a third. At the two latter the work of the explosion is terrible in evidence. The face of every victim is scarred and scalded, in many cases almost beyond recognition.

At the Agnews hospital tonight are many injured, suffering almost in every instance, from scalded bodies.

Several are expected to succumb to their injuries before the night is over. On board the Bennington unharmed members of the crew are working under great difficulties to reach the boiler room and coal bunkers where it is believed a dozen bodies are lying wedged in the wreckage or submerged in the water which fills that part of the vessel.

The cause of the explosion has not yet been determined. There is much talk among the crew, especially among the irresponsible members, of weakened and leaking boilers, but until a thorough inspection of the wrecked boilers can be made, no definite official statement is obtainable.

San Diego, July 21.—Twenty-eight dead bodies are lying at the morgue, on the piers and on the deck of a ruined ship of the United States navy. scores of men are lying grievously or painfully injured in sanitariums, and hospitals, fifteen sailors are missing and probably found death in the waters of the harbor as the result of the explosion of the boiler of the United States gunboat Bennington at 10:10 o'clock this morning.

The number dead so far is thirty-nine, seriously wounded, so far as is known, twenty-two, and painfully injured, fifty-five.

At the time of the accident the Bennington was lying in the stream. The warship had received orders from the navy department at Washington to sail this morning for Port Harford, where she was to meet the monitor Wyoming and convey the vessel to Mare Island navy yard.

Steam was up and every thing in readiness for sailing when, without any warning, whatever, the starboard forward boiler exploded with a deafening roar. Immediately it was apparent that an awful disaster of some kind had happened on board the warship. The ferry boat Ramona was coming across the bay at the time of the accident. Captain Bertelsen, of the Ramona, hurried to the aid of the stricken warship. The tug Santa Fe, launch McKinley, government launch General de Russey and a large number of other launches and water craft rushed to the assistance of the Bennington and endeavored to lend every assistance possible.

By the time the Ramona had arrived many of the sailors of the Bennington, who had jumped into the bay to escape the scalding steam, had been rescued and the removal of the wounded had already been commenced and was being conducted in perfect order.

At the time of the accident Commander Lucien Young and Surgeon A. E. Peck were on shore. On board the Bennington were presented terrible scenes. The force of the explosion had torn a great hole in the starboard side of the vessel which already was commencing to list.

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A section of the upper deck was carried away from stem to stern.

Blood and wreckage were distributed over the entire ship, the after cabin and the vicinity of the ship adjacent to the exploded boiler resembling a charnel house. Over it all hung a great cloud of white smoke which drifted slowly toward the Coronado shore.

Within a comparatively short time a dozen physicians were on the scene attending the wounded. A dozen or fifteen men were blown overboard by the force of the explosion.

Witness say they saw human bodies hurled over a hundred feet upward. The air was black with smoke which completely enveloped the ship. When it cleared away only a few men were seen on the decks while a number were floundering in the water. A boat was lowered from the vessel's side and many of them were picked up and taken on board.

Many of the dead and injured were taken ashore where the undertakers and physicians were assembled.

The bodies of many of the men were mutilated beyond recognition.

Commander Young, as soon as he reached the ship, gave orders that the airtight compartments be closed to prevent the listing of the ship and sinking. The magazines had been flooded to prevent further explosions.

As fast as the wounded could be removed they were hurried in ambulances, carriages, wagons and automobiles to the hospitals.

For a long time steam prevented access to the space between decks where most of the dead bodies lay. Not until late this afternoon was the last of the dead removed from the boiler room.

The boiler which exploded, it is said, was regarded as unsafe. Commander Young stated that during the recent return from Honolulu, steam pressure was kept reduced in that particular boiler.

When the explosion occurred, Engin-

NEGRO COLONY.

Unique Plan to Obtain Farm Laborers in Idaho.

Salt Lake City, July 21.—W. H. Moore of Hawthorne, Florida, is in Salt Lake City after having returned from Bear river valley in southern Idaho, where he has made arrangement to establish a negro colony on a small scale. Moore proposes to bring ten negro families from the south to labor in the sugar beet fields and the head of each family will be given one acre of land free on which to establish a home and raise poultry and garden truck.

It is probable that if this experiment is successful more colored people from the south will be brought to the agricultural districts of Southern Idaho to work on the farms.

Will Have No Cigarettes.

New York, July 21.—A campaign has been inaugurated by Commissioner Wathorn against the use of cigarettes on Ellis island. Their sale has been forbidden, and the commissioner has caused it to be known among the employes that cigarette smokers are not wanted. Men on the island say that the male immigrants are nearly all addicted to the habit.

CHINESE BOYCOTT ON IN EARNEST

Shanghai, July 21.—The boycott of American goods is now working but it has been agreed that the completion of all running contracts for supplies will be allowed. Meantime all the Chinese shops refuse to sell American goods, including Standard oil. All schools and colleges in this section have decided to discard all American books.

SECOND TRIAL BEGINS TODAY

New Jury to Try Williamson-Gessner-Biggs Case Secured.

No Time Lost in Selecting Jurors. Case Will Begin Again in Federal Court at 10 o'clock This Morning. Examination of Witnesses.

Portland, July 21.—Little time was lost in securing a new jury to try the Williamson, Gessner, Biggs case today.

The examination of witnesses will commence tomorrow. The jurors are: James Green, farmer, Douglas county; L. A. Ross, farmer, Jackson county; R. D. Collins, farmer, Washington county; W. W. Scott, clerk, Creswell, Lane county; R. W. Porter, blacksmith, Oregon City; John Mock, farmer, Multnomah county; S. A. Thorp, farmer, Benton county; Henry Keene, farmer, Marion county; A. B. Lewis, merchant, Cottage Grove; W. P. Barkley, farmer, Benton county; George Kirk, farmer, Lane county; M. S. Adams, carpenter, Dayton, Yamhill county.

BRITT GETS DECISION OVER "KID" SULLIVAN

San Francisco, July 21.—Jimmy Britt is still light weight champion of the world. He was awarded the decision over "Kid" Sullivan tonight in a 20-round contest in which Britt was the bright and shining star. He out-pointed Sullivan in nearly every round and although he did not knock out the husky youngster from Washington, demonstrated beyond all doubt, his superiority. As the referee said: "It was a stake horse against a plater."

BALFOUR WILL STAY UNTIL OCTOBER

TO LEAVE PARLIAMENT

Understood Primeir Will main Until End of Session.

Premier Balfour to Dissolve Parliament in October. No Authoritative Statement to Be Made Until Monday. Decision May Be Modified.

London, July 22 (Saturday)—It is understood that Premier Balfour has decided to remain in office until the end of the session and will dissolve parliament in October. No authoritative statement, however, will be made until Monday and in this interval the decision may be modified.

EARLDOM EXTINCT.

Seventh Earl of Cowper Dies Leaving No Heir.

London, England, July 21.—Reginald De Gray Cowper, seventh Earl Cowper, who was Lord Lieutenant of Ireland from 1880 to 1889, is dead. There being no heir, the earldom is now extinct. Earl Cowper was born in 1804.

The baronies of Dingwall, and Lucas, which Earl Cowper held, go to his nephew, Auburn Thomas Herbert, son of Auberon E. W. Herbert (third son of the earl of Carharvon), and Florence, daughter of the sixth earl of Cowper and the barony of Entler is shared by him with his sister, Ethel Anne Priscilla Herbert, his sister, and Lady Amabel, wife of the Admiral of the Eilat Lord Walter Talbot Kerr, sister of Earl Cowper.

Granted New Trial.

Olympia, July 21.—The supreme court granted Joseph de Pasquale, convicted of man slaughter at Walla Walla, a new trial.

De Pasquale killed Dominico Di Valerio in September, 1904, during a quarrel.

Goes to Penitentiary.

Chicago, July 21.—Daniel Kipley, former city detective, nephew of former Chief of Police Joseph Kipley, was taken to Joliet Penitentiary to begin his sentence of fourteen years for the murder of Joseph Hopkins in 1902. Kipley shot Hopkins in a quarrel founded on jealousy over a woman.

Baseball Scores.

San Francisco, July 21.—San Francisco, 5; Oakland, 2.
Portland, July 21.—Portland, 0; Tacoma, 2.